

## Message Text

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43

ACTION EA-13

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-07 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 L-02 PM-03 SR-02 AID-10 IGA-01 IO-03

DRC-01 SP-01 /069 W

----- 042518

R 161110Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO COMUSSAG/7TH AF NKP TH

INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU

JCS WASHDC

SECSTATE WASHDC 4755

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

CINCUSARPAC FORT SHAFTER HI

CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI

CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI

S E C R E T SAIGON 6412

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS VS LA CB

SUBJECT: TRIPARTITE DEPUTIES CONFERENCE 26 APR 1974

REFC (A) USSAG NKP 110855Z MAY 74

(B) PHNOM PENH 6580

1. IN REVIEW OF RECORD OF TRIPARTITE DEPUTIES CONFERENCE HELD IN PHNOM PENH 26 APRIL 1974 IT IS NOTED THAT SEVERAL ITEMS WERE DISCUSSED ON WHICH ATTITUDE OF US EMBASSY SAIGON SHOULD BE MADE UNMISTAKABLY CLEAR.

2. WE START FROM PREMISE THAT OVERRIDING INTEREST OF USG WAS, IS AND MUST CONTINUE TO BE SOUTH VIETN-NAM. THEREFORE USG CINTEREST IN SOUTH VIET-NAM MUST BE CLEARLY RECOGNIZED AS THE FIRST PRIORITY AND ALL ACTIONS REGARDING CAMBODIA MUST ALWAYS BE CONSIDERED IN TERMS OF ITS POSSIBLE EFFECT ON OUR PRIMARY INTERESTS. USG INTER

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EST IN CAMBODIA IS GREAT BUT NOTHING MUST BE ALLOWED TO

OBSURE OBVIOUS, CENTRAL AND CONTROLLING FACT THAT WHILE OUR HOPE IS FOR A FAVORABLE OUTCOME IN CAMBODIA, WE CANNOT AFFORD TO EVER LET OUR ACTIONS IN PURSUIT OF THIS OBJECTIVE ENDANGER OUR PRIMARY INTERESTS.

3. THERE IS ON THE STATUTE BOOKS THE FOLLOWING PROVISION WHICH REFERS TO THE APPROPRIATION OF \$1,126 BILLION FOR MILITARY ASSISTANCE FOR VIETN-NAM IN FY 1974:

PUBLIC LAW 93-238. 93RD CONGRESS, H.R. 11575 JANUARY 2 1974

TITLE VI, SEC. 737:

"..... PROVIDED FURTHER THAT NOTHING IN CLAUSE (1) OF THE FIRST SENTENCE OF THIS SUBSECTION SHALL BE CONSTRUED AS AUTHORIZING THE USE OF ANY SUCH FUNDS TO SUPPORT VIETNAMESE OR OTHER FREE WORLD FORCES IN ACTIONS DESIGNED TO PROVIDE MILITARY SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE TO THE GOVERNMENT OF CAMBODIA OR LAOS."

4. THE BATTLE FOR SUFFICIENT MILITARY AID FOR THE GVN IN FY 1975 IS NOT GOING TO BE EASY AT BEST. THE LAST THING WE NEED WOULD BE TO HAVE THE ARGUMENT ADVANCED THAT SOME ACTION OF THE GVN HAS BEEN SUFFICIENTLY PRECISE IN SUPPORT OF CAMBODIA TO BE INVOLATION OF THIS ARTICLE. SUCH AN ARGUMENT COULD BE LOGICALLY MADE REGARDING THE PROPOSAL (PARA 2 A REF A) REGARDING FANK RECRUITMENT AND ARMING OF FANK VOLUNTEERS AMONG THE KHMER REFUGEES IN MR IV. ATTRACTIVE AS THIS PROPOSAL MAY BE IT IS OBVIOUSLY NOT WORTH THE RISK ESPECIALLY WHEN IT WOULD SEEM THAT INTERNAL POLITICAL FACTORS STILL ARE MORE IMPORTANT TO THE CAMBODIAN LEADERSHIP THAN IS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AN EFFECTIVE CONSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN IN PHNOM PENH. SIMILAR ARGUMENTS COULD BE MADE WITH REGARD TO THE FORMAL ASSIGNMENT OF AN RVNAF OFFICER TO HQ FANK J-Z AS PROPOSED IN PARAGRAPHS 2E AND 3D.

5. SIMILARLY THE GENERAL REPATRIATION OF THE KHMER REFUGEES HIGHLY DESIRABLE FROM THE GVN STANDPOINT IS OBVIOUSLY A NONSTARTER SINCE THE CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT IS NOT COMPETENT TO HANDLE THE REFUGEE LOAD IT NOW HAS ACCORDING TO REF B.

6. AGAIN SIGNING OF A FORMAL DOCUMENT REGULARIZING AND FORMALIZING DE FACTO WORKING ARRANGEMENT ON "CROSS BORDER OPERATIONS" AS IMPLIED IN PARAGRAPH 3C OF REF A SERVES NO PURPOSE EXCEPT TO  
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HAVE THINGS MORE "TIDY." ACCORDINGLY, WE HAVE ADVISED THE GVN TO LEAVE THESE ARRANGMENTS IN THEIR PRESENT INFORMAL BUT PRAGMATICALLY WORKABLE STATE.

7. IT IS STRONGLY SUGGESTED THAT THE FORMULATION OF FUTURE AGENDAS BE PHRASED WITH THE CONSIDERATIONS RECORDED ABOVE VERY MUCH IN MIND.  
MARTIN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY ASSISTANCE, MEETING AGENDA, ARMED FORCES, CONSCRIPTION, MEETINGS, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, MILITARY PLANS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 16 MAY 1974  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GarlanWA  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
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**Subject:** TRIPARTITE DEPUTIES CONFERENCE 26 APR 1974  
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